BOOK REVIEWS

Adaptation of Work to Man and Occupational Health Problems in Countries Undergoing Industrial Development. International Labour Office, Occupational Safety and Health Series No. 3. (Pp. 19; no price quoted.) Geneva. 1964.

This report examines the implications of trying 'to adapt work to man and each man to his job' in countries undergoing industrial development. It is suggested that it might be wrong to apply the ergonomic principles established in a Western society to these new situations. Basic research in anatomy and physiology is necessary before the best designs for machinery for use in these countries become available. These, however, are not the major issues; more important matters arise in the field of Psychosociology—religions, rites, and customs play an important part in the process of adapting to a factory system. It is necessary to take account of 'a whole series of fundamental data from branches as varied as human geography, ethnology and sociology' as well as of medicine and its basic sciences.

The important part that may be played by the 'industrial doctor on the site' is emphasized, though it is held that he is not likely to be able to contribute much to the basic researches referred to above. (This depends on the training he has received and the co-operation that is available from nearby research bodies.)

It is argued that in planning occupational health services it would be a grave error to underestimate the importance of other health problems, *e.g.* diet and infections. It may well be that sufficient weight is not given in the report to the importance of allocating priorities to the different aspects of a health plan.

The report is authoritative. It is unfortunate that it is written in such a turgid style that rapid reading is impossible.

R. E. LANE

The Rochdale Industrial Health Service Limited. First Annual Report and Accounts with Chairman's Statement for year ended December 31st, 1963. (Typescript. Pp. 7.)

This is the first Annual Report of the newly formed Rochdale Industrial Health Service, but in fact it covers the period from its inception in October 1962 to March 1964. The number of workers attending for treatment and consultation rose steadily and had nearly trebled by the end of 1963, and the introduction of a mobile Surgery which came into service early in 1964 may be expected to quicken the increase.

Good relations have been established with local bodies including the Staff of the Rochdale Infirmary and the local practitioners, and collaboration has taken place with the Nuffield Department of Occupational Health of Manchester University in two research projects concerned

with the effects of noise on hearing, and byssinosis, respectively. First aid training has also been encouraged during the period under review, and further courses are to be held during 1964.

The Service is still without a home of its own, but a permanent headquarters is planned in a convenient and central situation.

The Director has obviously put much energy, initiative, enthusiasm, and experience into this project, and it must indeed be a disappointment to him that so far only 13 industrial organizations out of a potential 117 are participating in the scheme.

G. F. KEATINGE

Basic Principles of Ventilation and Heating, 2nd ed. By Thomas Bedford. (Pp. xii + 438; illustrated; 52s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1964.

Dr. Bedford completed the manuscript for this new edition of his well-known book only a short time before his death in 1963. Throughout the text there is evidence of revision to bring the contents up to date. This is particularly noticeable in the sections on comfort, scales of warmth, and domestic heating. The chapter on work at high temperatures has been largely re-written to take account of the considerable volume of published work in recent years on indices of heat stress and acclimatization. There is a new chapter on the heating and ventilation of hospitals.

In its revised form this work will surely continue to serve as a standard source of reference and instruction for many years.

D. TURNER

A Synopsis of Cardiology. By D. Weitzmann. (Pp. vii + 200; 48 figs.; 30s.) Bristol: John Wright. 1964.

This is a compact, pocketable summary of the essentials of cardiology. It originally formed part of Tidy's Synopsis of Medicine and follows the same style of presentation. It has some advantages derived from its format, including handiness and an ease of reference largely due to numerous bold sub-headings. The index is full and useful. It has counterbalancing disadvantages in that the style is rather staccato for continuous reading and the page size implies rather small illustrations; somewhat unexpectedly, the x-ray reproductions survive this better than some of the electrocardiograms, but both are adequate and sufficiently numerous.

The balance of space allotted to the various subjects is good (as Dr. Maurice Campbell points out in the introduction) and the factual material is, if not beyond criticism, at least well able to meet it. The mixture of old